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Amendment

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REMARKS

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration of the application, and for allowing claims 47 – 52.

Claims 1 – 37 and 39 – 52 were in the application. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 and 30 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,744,534 (Balasubramanian et al.). Claims 13 – 15 and 31 – 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Balasubramanian et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,337,692 (Rai et al.). Claims 4, 9, 16, 17, 18, 22, 27, 34, 35, 36, 40, and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Balasubramanian et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,226,011 (Sakuyama et al.). Claims 47 – 52 were allowed by the Examiner.

Claims 1 – 37 and 39 – 51 are canceled with this amendment.

With regard to the subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner, the applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, the applicant believes that the remaining claims in the application are allowable because the prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independent of how the invention is paraphrased.

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The Applicant believes that application is now in condition for allowance, and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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